United Nations S/2006/1002

Security Council

Distr.: General
19 December 2006

Original: English

Letter dated 15 December 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

As the Security Council prepares to undertake the comprehensive review of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate foreseen in its presidential statement of 21 December 2005 (S/PRST/2005/64), I wish to follow up on my letter to the Security Council of 13 December 2005 (S/2005/817) in which I indicated my intention to review the reporting lines of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate.

This effort is aimed at better reflecting the spirit of Security Council resolution 1535 (2004) and the above-mentioned presidential statement, in which "the Security Council recalled that the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate flows from that of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and reaffirmed that the Committee has the sole responsibility for providing policy guidance to the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate". At the same time, this exercise also reaffirms that responsibility for the managerial and administrative oversight of the Executive Directorate remains vested in me, to be discharged through customary Secretariat channels.

Since the Council is due to complete its comprehensive review by 31 December 2006, I should like to address the process whereby the Executive Directorate submits its semi-annual comprehensive reports and its programmes of work to the Counter-Terrorism Committee through me, in accordance with the report of the Committee on its revitalization (see S/2004/124, annex), subsequently endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1535 (2004). Since the past and projected activities of the Executive Directorate must necessarily reflect the policy guidance provided by the Committee itself, the Security Council might wish to consider adopting an approach whereby the Executive Directorate submits those documents directly to the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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